

Neurosurgeon moves to Valley

Dr. K.D. (Doug) Nielson, a neurosurgeon with special training in the field of microneurosurgery, has moved to the Antelope Valley from Virginia to join Dr. Harvey Birsner in forming the Antelope Valley Neurosciences Group Inc., located in Lancaster.

Prior to coming here, Dr. Nielson was assistant chief of neurosurgery at the Naval Regional Medical Center in Portsmouth, Va., from 1976 through 1979. He also was a member of the neurosurgery facility of the Eastern Virginia Medical School, Norfolk, Va., for three years.

Dr. Nielson has received

specialized training for surgery of the pituitary gland and operations for the prevention of potential stroke and relief of chronic pain.

In his microsurgical work under the operating microscope, he uses tiny instruments and performs surgical procedures which cannot be accomplished with the naked eye.

Utilizing the operating microscope, he performs relatively new surgical procedures known as "micro-anastomoses," working on small blood vessels the size of a pencil lead. This procedure supplies blood to areas of the brain previously blood-deficient in an effort

to prevent potential stroke.

Dr. Nielson also is adept at a microsurgical procedure entitled "trans-sphenoidal" microsurgery of the pituitary gland. In this operation, small but serious abnormalities, such as tumors, may be removed from the pituitary gland without leaving a scar and with greater safety than afforded by earlier operations.

Dr. Nielson holds a bachelor of science degree, graduating magna cum laude from the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, in 1964. In 1967 he was awarded his MD degree with honors from the University of

Utah College of Medicine.

He interned in surgery at the University of Minnesota Hospitals, Minneapolis, in 1967-68 and completed a residency in general surgery at the University of Minnesota in 1969.

Dr. Nielson received his training in neurosurgery at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, Texas, from 1971 through 1976 and completed a fellowship in treatment of chronic and intractable pain at the University of California, San Francisco, in 1979. During this fellowship, he studied under two of the world's foremost pain surgeons.

Dr. Nielson served 10 years in the United States Navy Medical Corps and was discharged as a commander in July, 1979.

He is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha, national medical honor society; the American Association of Neurological Surgery; and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons. He is a diplomat of the American Board of Neurological Surgery and the National Board of Medical Examiners.

On the local scene, Dr. Nielson is a member of the medical staffs of the Antelope Valley Hospital Medical Center, Lancaster Community Hospital, Mira Loma Hospital and Palmdale General Hospital.

Dr. Nielson and his wife, Vera, have three teenage children: Karl, Kristina and Lief Erik.

The Antelope Valley Neurosciences Group, Inc., which includes the referral practice of Drs. Nielson and Birsner, is located at 44855 10th West, Lancaster.



DR. K. D. (DOUG) NIELSON
... newcomer to Valley

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